

## NOTES ON WEATHER IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

**North Atlantic.**—WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 10.—Emergency orders to beware of enormous icebergs were flashed to all trans-Atlantic shipping by the Naval Hydrographic Office yesterday. All vessels were advised to take the summer lanes immediately. Ordinarily the summer lanes are not used until about February 1. Great masses of ice, however, are already floating through the winter lanes, constituting a grave menace to shipping.—*Washington Times*, Dec. 10, 1922.

**PLYMOUTH, ENGLAND**, Dec. 31.—The American steamship *President Harding* arrived here to-day from New York. During the voyage the vessel encountered four days of gales with tremendous seas.—*New York Times*, Jan. 1, 1923.

**France.**—PERPIGNAN, Dec. 7.—A train was blown off the track near the Fitou station yesterday by a mistral of great violence.—*Binghamton Press*, Dec. 7, 1922.

**Italy.**—ROME, Dec. 13.—Italy is suffering from an exceptional cold wave. Five persons were frozen to

death in Rome last night and several similar cases are reported from other cities.

The Appenine Mountains are completely covered with snow. Wolves driven desperate by the lack of food have descended to the plains and are seen almost at the gates of the capital.—*Washington Times*, Dec. 13, 1922.

**Greece.**—ATHENS, Dec. 14.—The Orient Express, due in Athens Monday evening, has been snowed in by a blizzard in the Macedonian Mountains for the last 24 hours. Three feet of snow have fallen in the mountain districts, and trains that should have left that city for the north are being detained here.—*New York Post*, Dec. 14, 1922.

**Japan.**—TSURUGA, Dec. 2.—While the great majority of farmers of Japan have had a prosperous year with bountiful crops, those in Asaigun, Shiga prefecture, in the center of which is Lake Biwa, have been impoverished, the long drought having destroyed their crops.—*Chicago Evening Post*, Dec. 26, 1922.

## DETAILS OF THE WEATHER IN THE UNITED STATES.

## GENERAL CONDITIONS.

The outstanding feature of December weather was the rapid east-southeastward movement of at least four great anticyclones from the Canadian Northwest to the Atlantic. The movements took place during the following named dates:

The first, 4th to 7th, inclusive.

The second, 8th to 12th, inclusive.

The third, 10th to 14th, inclusive.

The fourth, 15th to 19th, inclusive.

On the date last named an anticyclone occupied the Great Basin region; it persisted practically until the end of the month and during that time the movement of anticyclones from the Canadian Northwest ceased and cyclones entered the continent generally south of the mouth of the Columbia River.

An unusually large number of cyclones (24) was observed during the month.

The drought in eastern sections that had prevailed since September was terminated.

## CYCLONES AND ANTICYCLONES.

By W. P. DAY.

The number of low-pressure areas greatly exceeded the normal and generally speaking the day-to-day movement was also above the normal. High-pressure areas were mostly of the Alberta type, moving in paths somewhat farther north than is usual during December. There were no abnormal developments, except a storm off the Colorado type which moved eastward and passed off the Virginia Capes into the Atlantic, causing whole gales from the northeast on the New England coast. The number of cyclones (Lows) and anticyclones (HIGHS) by types follows:

CYCLONES.	Al- berta.	North Paci- fic.	South Paci- fic.	North- ern Rocky Moun- tain.	Colo- rado.	Texas.	East Gulf.	South Atlan- tic.	Central.	Total.
December, 1922..	6.0	6.0	1.0	.....	6.0	1.0	.....	4.0	.....	24.0
Average number, 1892-1912, in- clusive.....	4.3	2.5	0.8	0.3	1.1	2.5	0.2	0.3	0.4	12.4

  

ANTICYCLONES.	North Paci- fic.	South Paci- fic.	Alberta.	Plateau and Rocky Moun- tain region.	Hudson Bay.	Total.
December, 1922.....	.....	2.0	6.0	2.0	1.0	11.0
Average number, 1892-1912, in- clusive.....	1.1	1.2	4.7	1.3	0.5	8.8

## FREE-AIR CONDITIONS.

By W. R. GREGG, Meteorologist.

Free-air conditions for the month of December were in general not far from normal. As indicated in Table 1, temperatures were somewhat below normal at Ellendale, N. Dak., and above at Groesbeck, Tex. In both cases smaller departures prevailed in the upper than in the lower levels. At intermediate stations temperatures were very close to normal, variations as a rule amounting to less than 1° C. The latitudinal distribution above indicated agrees well with the conditions shown in Climatological Chart III, viz, negative departures along the northern border and positive along the southern, with nearly normal temperatures over a fairly wide belt between these two regions. Although departures from normal for the month as a whole were not large in any part of the country, it should be noted that the averages are based upon individual values which vary between rather wide extremes, the usual case at this time of year,